

PROCEEDINGS

OF

A MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC CITIZENS

Of Philadelphia, opposed to the passage of the Sub-Treasury Bill.

JUNE 21, 1838.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

At an unusually large meeting of the democratic citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, opposed to the Sub-Treasury scheme, and of such other democrats who believe that the agitation of the question at the present time is calculated to distract and divide the democratic party, held at the county court room, on Monday evening, the 18th instant, Samuel Badger, Esq., was chosen president, Thomas D. Grover, Peter Hay, Richard Palmer, and George K. Childs, vice presidents, and Daniel D. Austin and Charles F. Frick, secretaries.

The object of the meeting having been stated, John W. Ashmead addressed the meeting in an able, eloquent, and lucid manner, and being prefatory to the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted, viz:

Whereas, the present is a crisis of peculiar interest in the affairs of the great republican party of the Union; and whereas, divisions and diversities of opinions exist on the subject of the bill, now pending in the Congress of the United States, to establish a Sub-Treasury system, and a large portion of the sincere friends of the National Administration, both here and elsewhere, are opposed to the passage of the said bill, believing that its provisions are such as cannot fail to be injurious to the best interests of the country; and whereas, a still larger portion of the democratic party are impressed with the conviction that the agitation of the question of a Sub-Treasury, at the present time, has an inevitable tendency to distract and divide, if not ultimately defeat, the democratic party of the State and Union: Therefore,

Resolved, That the democratic citizens here assembled are decidedly opposed to the passage of the Sub-Treasury bill by Congress, inasmuch as they sincerely believe that its becoming a law will inevitably divide the democratic party of Pennsylvania, and jeopard the success of the democratic ticket in the State.

Resolved, That we do believe it is now obvious to all unprejudiced minds, that a large majority of the people of the United States are opposed to the Sub-Treasury measure, and, upon republican principles, it ought to be abandoned, inasmuch as we recognise, as fundamental, the doctrine that the majority must rule.

Resolved, That this meeting earnestly implores every democratic member of Congress to exert his influence to prevent the passage of the Sub-Treasury bill, as its adoption will tend, almost inevitably, to the defeat and discomfiture of the democratic party, not only in the State, but throughout the Union.

Resolved, That we cannot too highly applaud the conduct of the democratic convention which assembled at Harrisburg on the 5th of March last, in placing the nomination of DAVID R. PORTER, for Governor, upon broad democratic grounds, unconnected with questions of peculiar policy upon which democrats may honestly entertain differences of opinion.

Resolved, That this meeting has the utmost confidence in the patriotism, integrity, and capacity of DAVID R. PORTER, the regularly nominated candidate for Governor of this State, and that the democrats here assembled pledge themselves to exert all honorable means to secure his election to that station.

Resolved, That, as democrats, we are opposed to the interference of Government office holders in the primary assemblages of the people, and that we recognise the principles proclaimed by THOMAS JEFFERSON, in his letter to his office holders, and of ANDREW JACKSON, in his inaugural address, to be correct; and that, therefore, while we recognise the right of all who differ from us in political sentiment to assemble at all times together, and freely express the opinions they entertain, yet it was with pain we perceived that at the recent meeting of the friends of the Sub-Treasury, held in this city, an officer of the General Government addressed the meeting; a proceeding evidently in bad taste in itself, and opposed to the principles of Jeffersonian democracy.

Resolved, That these proceedings be forwarded to the Senators and Representatives from this State, with a request that they be presented to Congress, and that a copy of the same be also forwarded to every democratic member of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the officers of the meeting, and published in all the democratic papers.

SAMUEL BADGER,

President.

THOMAS D. GROVER,

PETER HAY,

RICHARD PALMER,

GEORGE K. CHILDS,

Vice Presidents.

DANIEL D. AUSTIN,

CHARLES F. FRICK,

Secretaries.